

STATEMENT OF THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A jig assembly for use in implantation of an orthopedic implant, comprising:

a) a jig including a first portion provided with a plurality of longitudinally displaced holes, and a second portion provided with a plurality of openings, and a plurality of lateral slots extending into said longitudinally displaced holes through which a drill bit can be laterally entered into said holes, said second portion being vertically displaced relative to said first portion;

~~b) receiving means for receiving a drill bit into said plurality of longitudinally displaced holes of said first portion of said jig;~~

⇒ ~~b)~~ a drill guide receivable within each of said plurality of openings of said second portion of said jig;

⇒ ~~c)~~ gauge means for measuring a depth of a hole drilled into bone through said drill guide; and

⇒ ~~d)~~ locking means for locking said jig relative to an orthopedic implant.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A jig assembly according to claim 2 1, wherein:

said slots are non-radially oriented relative to said holes.

4. (canceled)

5. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 1, wherein:

when said locking means locks said jig relative to the orthopedic implant, said first portion of said jig extends parallel to a portion of the implant extending beneath said first portion.

6. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 1, wherein:

said plurality of openings in said second portion are longitudinally displaced.

7. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 1, wherein:

said plurality of openings in said second portion includes two laterally displaced recesses.

8. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 7, wherein:

said plurality of openings in said second portion includes a bounded opening.

9. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 1, wherein:

said second portion of said jig includes a concave undersurface.

10. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 1, wherein:

said gauge means measures said depth of said hole relative to an anatomical structure.

11. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 1, wherein:

said drill guide includes a bore, a window in a side of said drill guide open to said bore, and graduated indicia provided along at least one side of said window, and said gauge means includes a shaft insertable into said bore and provided with a reference mark thereon.

12. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 11, wherein:

said shaft has an end portion angled relative to an adjacent portion thereof, and said end portion includes a rounded tip having an upper catch, wherein said end portion may be resiliently bent relative to said adjacent portion.

13. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 1, further comprising:

f) a drill sleeve including a tube defining a longitudinal passage, an upper bearing having a bore coaxial with said passage, and a bridge portion laterally displaced from the axes of said tube and said bearing which couples said tube and said bearing in a spaced apart relationship.

14. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 13, wherein:

said passage has a smaller diameter than said bore.

15. (currently amended) A jig assembly according to claim 14, wherein:

~~said receiving means includes a plurality of lateral slots extending into said longitudinally displaced holes in said first portion of said jig, and~~
said bridge portion arm is sized to be slidably moved within each of said slots.

16. (original) A jig for use during implantation of an orthopedic implant, comprising:

- a) a first portion provided with a plurality of longitudinally displaced holes, and a plurality of lateral slots extending into said longitudinally displaced holes; and
- b) a second portion provided with a plurality of openings, said second portion being vertically displaced relative to said first portion.

17. (original) A jig according to claim 16, wherein:

said slots are transverse to a longitudinal axis of said first portion.

18. (currently amended) A jig according to claim 17, wherein:

said slots are non-radially oriented relative to said holes.

19. (original) A jig according to claim 16, wherein:

said plurality of openings in said second portion includes two lateral and symmetrical openings.

20. (original) A jig according to claim 19, wherein:

said second portion includes a hole relatively distal said lateral and symmetrical openings.

21. (currently amended) A jig assembly for use during implantation of an orthopedic implant at least partially into a medullary canal of cortical bone, comprising:

a) a rigid member removably couplable relative to the implant, said rigid member provided with an opening and an upper surface;

b) a guide longitudinally movable within said opening relative to said rigid member, said guide including a distal tubular portion having a distal end and a length which does not extend higher than said upper surface of said rigid member when said distal end is positioned on the cortical bone, and a proximal tubular portion coaxial with said distal tubular portion, said distal and proximal tubular portions being in a spaced apart relationship; and

c) a drill bit including a proximal portion and a relatively distal portion, said distal portion having a smaller diameter than a diameter of said proximal portion,

wherein said diameter of said distal portion is sized to fit through said opening and said guide, and said diameter of said proximal portion is sized to function as a stop against said upper surface of said rigid member.

22. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 21, wherein:

said guide is slidably movable relative to said rigid member.

23. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 21, wherein:

said guide further includes a bridge portion which rigidly couples said proximal and distal tubular portions of said guide in said spaced apart relationship, said bridge portion being laterally offset relative to a longitudinal axis extending through said proximal and distal tubular portions.

24. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 21, wherein:

said proximal tubular portion has an inner diameter sized to receive said proximal and distal portions of said drill bit, and said distal tubular portion has an inner diameter which is larger in diameter than said distal portion of said drill bit but smaller in diameter than said proximal portion of said drill bit.

25. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 21, wherein:

said proximal tubular portion of said guide is substantially more massive than said distal tubular portion of said guide.

26. (original) A jig assembly according to claim 21, further comprising:

means for preventing said guide from rotating relative to said rigid member when said drill bit is rotated.

27. (original) An orthopedic implant system, comprising:

a) an orthopedic implant including an intramedullary portion and a plate portion longitudinally and vertically offset relative to said intramedullary portion;

b) a jig including a first portion provided with a plurality of longitudinally displaced holes and a second portion provided with a plurality of openings, said second portion being vertically displaced relative to said first portion; and

c) means for coupling said jig to said implant,

wherein when said jig is coupled to said implant, said second portion of said jig is seated on said plate portion of said implant and said first portion of said jig is parallel to but vertically offset from said intramedullary portion of said implant,

wherein said jig facilitates drilling holes into bone above said intramedullary portion and beneath said plate portion.

28. (currently amended) A system according to claim 27, wherein:

said plate portion has a convex surface and said ~~first~~ second portion has a concave surface, said convex and concave surfaces having corresponding curvatures.

29. (new) A jig assembly according to claim 1, wherein:

said drill guide is threadably engageable in each of said plurality of openings of said second portion of said jig.